





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## GAME-BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 730,571, dated June 9, 1903.

Application filed October 16, 1902. Serial No. 127,469. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY H. ROLFE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at San Francisco, county of San Francisco, and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game-Boards, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof.

My invention relates to game apparatus, and particularly to improved boards or charts by which a game in imitation of the field game of base-ball may be played.

My improved apparatus comprises a chart or charts including the representation of a base-ball field with the diamond, a portion subdivided into a plurality of spaces arranged around a common center and denoting various plays indicated by a player representing the batsman, and another portion subdivided into a plurality of spaces representing various plays indicated by a player representing the fielders. For convenience I have formed the game apparatus in three separate boards or charts and have termed one the "field," another the "batsman's chart," and the third the "fielders' chart." It is of course understood that they may equally be arranged upon a single board as one chart.

The batsman's and fielders' charts are each provided with an indicator centrally disposed and adapted to be spun upon its support so that it may point to any one of the various subdivisions. The batsman's chart is subdivided into spaces the number and size of which predominate in favor of the batsman, and the fielders' chart is divided into spaces the number and size of which predominate in favor of the fielders. The spaces on both charts represent plays complete in themselves—that is to say, a play denoted upon the batsman's chart is an entirely complete play and does not require any play upon the fielders' chart in order to complete it, and a similar condition is true of the fielders' chart. In carrying out the game, therefore, complete plays may be made by the player using the batsman's chart and complete plays made by the player using the fielders' chart.

The object of my invention is to follow more closely in a parlor game the field game

of base-ball and to simplify the playing of the game by making each play complete in itself.

I will now proceed to describe an apparatus embodying my invention and the various plays which constitute the game and will then point out the novel features in claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a board or chart comprising a base-ball field with the diamond. Figs. 2 and 3 represent, respectively, batsman's and fielders' charts. Fig. 4 is a view in transverse section of one of the charts shown in Figs. 2 and 3, upon a larger scale, and showing the indicator thereof and its mounting. Fig. 5 represents a marker which may be employed in the game.

In the embodiment of my invention herein illustrated, and with particular reference to Fig. 1, which represents the base-ball field, the diamond is designated by the reference character 1 and its bases and base-lines by the reference character 2.

3 and 4 designate the left, center, and right fields, and 5 designates the home plate.

B designates the batsman's chart radially spaced or divided, substantially as shown. In the spaces or divisions are marked the various plays by the batsman or those affecting him.

F designates the fielders' chart radially spaced or divided, substantially as shown. In the spaces or divisions are marked the various fielders' plays or those affecting them.

In the center of each chart B and F is arranged a fixed stud 6 and rotatably mounted thereon a revoluble indicator 7, adapted to be spun in carrying out the game.

The various plays marked in the radial spaces of chart B predominate in favor of the batsman, and the various plays in the radial spaces of chart F predominate in favor of the fielders and against the batsman.

Eight markers, like that shown in Fig. 5, should be used—preferably four of one color and four of another—to represent the base-runners of each team and their positions on the bases.

In playing the game a score-card, such as is used to keep the score in a regular game of base-ball, may be used.

The manner of playing the game is as follows: One of the players spins the indicator



on chart B and the other that on chart F. The indicator on chart F is always spun first and its indication scored. If the indicator shows a "passed ball," "wild pitch," or "stolen base," nothing is scored, and the batting-spinner is spun by the opposing player. If the arrow indicates that the batsman is safe, one of the markers is placed on first base to represent the base runner. The arrow on chart B is then spun by the opposing player and its indication is scored. If it indicates that the batsman reaches first base, the marker or base-runner is advanced to second base and another marker placed on first base. If the indication shows that the batsman makes a two-base hit or a three-base hit, a marker is placed upon the base indicated and the base-runner advanced accordingly. The farthest advanced base-runner is always the one put out when forced to run on ground hits. On "outs" by fly-balls the base-runners hold their bases and the batter is out. "Passed balls," "wild pitch," and "stolen base" advance each base-runner one base. "Out stealing base" puts out the farthest advanced base-runner, and the other base-runners are advanced a base. A "bunt" puts the batsman out, but advances all base-runners one base. In all cases where the batsman reaches a base and forces base-runners from the bases the base-runners are advanced unless the play indicated conflicts. The rules of baseball should be closely followed. The indicators on charts F and B are alternately spun

by the opposing players and the indications scored until three outs occur. Then the players exchange charts and proceed as before until the game is finished.

What I claim is—

1. A game apparatus comprising two charts, having radial spaces with the various plays of the game of base-ball, each complete in itself, marked thereon, the plays on one chart predominating in favor of the fielders, and on the other chart predominating in favor of the batsman, and an indicator on each chart adapted to be spun to indicate the various plays, substantially as described.

2. In a game apparatus, the combination with two charts having radial spaces with the various plays in a game of base-ball, each complete in itself, marked thereon, the plays on one chart predominating in favor of the fielders, and on the other chart predominating in favor of the batsman, an indicator adapted to be spun to indicate the various plays, of a diagram representing a base-ball diamond, and pieces for locating the base-runners on the diagram and determining the runs as the various plays are indicated, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

HENRY H. ROLFE.

Witnesses:

MORGAN H. JELLETT,  
J. H. JELLETT.